

Field day crowd grows up after slow start

CLARKSBURG—After a slow afternoon start, attendance at the annual Clarksburg Field Day climbed to a near-record level Thursday evening. Chairman James Hiser estimated the crowd at 4,500 persons — one of the largest to attend the event at the United Methodist Church grounds off Ohio 138. Additional parking areas had to be opened as the evening wore on to make room for the large number of autos coming onto the grounds. The evening crowd was entertained by the Blue Ridge Quartet of Sparta, S.C., who sang gospel songs and climaxed the program with "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." The song was a tribute to servicemen — both those now serving and those who have served.

Other entertainment included an afternoon performance by the Adelphi Band, which also performed before the start of the evening, and by the Senior Citizens Band of Columbus. The field day, including contests for youngsters and adults alike, attracted many participants. There was trap shooting, horseshoes and tractor pulls for the adults and water balloon throwing, wheelbarrow racing and greased pole climbing for the young. Ross County Commissioner Gilbert N. Stultz, who has been attending for the last five years, called the field day more than an activity. It's an event where many families get together and where former community residents meet with old friends and relatives.

Two boys in earlier life with teaching driver training in city and county schools, Stultz said he now finds the field days enjoyable. He added, "They've got a pretty day and a beautiful grove to hold it in." Billy Wells, one of the performers in the Senior Citizens Band, gave a demonstration in playing the bones which he claims is a hot art now. Wells, who is 89, began playing the bones in 1884, when he was four years old. "Every kid in the alley played the bones then," Wells said observing that "kids today and most musicians don't know what they are." Until seven years ago, when he had a stroke, Wells played with two sets of bones, one with each hand. Now, he plays only

with his left hand. The Senior Citizens band is directed by Mrs. Ruth Marton while 85-year-old Ray Conett was directing the Adelphi Band. The trap shoot, one of the contests for the adults, reportedly attracted more young men than ever before. Ralph Letz of Circleville, one of the long time trap shooters attending, feels young men are going in more for trap shooting these days than they are for hunting. Letz, who has missed very few trap shoots since he began attending, recalls coming to the field day for the first time in 1924 in a newly-acquired Model T Ford. Another top trap shooter at the field day was Alfred Van-Passen, also of Circleville who hasn't missed the Clarksburg

event in 35 years. The field day attracted residents of many Ohio areas — Dayton, Columbus, Toledo. Among visitors were Mr. and Mrs. James Graham — Mrs. Graham is the former Mary Duse of Clarksburg — who have just returned from a two-year teaching assignment at Bangkok, Thailand. It was the first visit to the field day for Graham who described the activities in the grove of old oak trees as "Americana at its best. I just love the grove," he added. Graham had been teaching at the International School at Bangkok and is returning to Toledo as a special education teacher. Mrs. Graham was teaching at the Raum Rudi International School and one of

her pupils was a nephew of Uhart, secretary general of the United Nations. The Rev. Orville Farmer, pastor of the Clarksburg church was master of ceremonies for the afternoon program. Three other former pastors attended — the Rev. Grover C. Reed, Lancaster; the Rev. Herman Seely, Magnolia Spring; and the Rev. Carroll Chesner, Route 2, Nelsonville. Total receipts for the event were \$479.83 and proceeds to go for improvements of the United Methodist Church and the campground. At the dinner stand, field day visitors were supplied a total 175 chickens and 800 pounds of fish, 200 pounds of hamburger and 20 pounds of wieners along with 251 gallons of soft drinks. Winners of the various contests were:



ADELPHI COMMUNITY BAND STRIKES UP AT FIELD DAY
Eighty-year-old Roy Conett performs as guest conductor

- Horseshoe Pitching — Class A—Kenny Dawes, Goodhope, first; Harold Wipert, Chillicothe, second; Ted Harris, London, third.
- Horseshoe Pitching — Class B — Farrell Johnson, Bourneville; Wayne Daley, Chillicothe; Gilbert Palmer, Bannbridge.
- Horseshoe Pitching — Class C — George Whaley, Greenfield; George Stultz, Bannbridge; Harold Gerhardt, Xenia.
- Horseshoe Pitching — Class D — M. Wipert, Chillicothe; Roger Wilburn, Clarksburg; and Harold Pike, Atlanta.
- Tractor Pull — 850 pounds — Tom Cortray, William Schooley; and Harold Wescup.
- Tractor Pull — 1,200 pounds — Tom Cortray; Tim Shaw; and Gene Hoover.
- Bubble Gum Contest — Boys — Ronald Grigsby, Chris Hawkins, Jim Sowers.
- Bubble Gum Contest — Girls — Patty Shanton, Trina Stone, Tammy Thacker.
- Wheelbarrow Race — Boys — Chris Hawkins and Jim Sowers; Mike Gallagher and Dana Herman, and Wayne Grigsby and Glenn Adams.
- Wheelbarrow Race — Girls — Cindy Noble and Ruth Ann Aier; Debbie Justice and Lou Roll; and Katie Webb and Emily Kenny.
- Water Balloon Contest—Boys — Wayne Grigsby and Glenn Adams; Fred Hamilton and Bill Whaley; and Rick Garrison and Glenn Winfield.
- Water Balloon Contest—Girls — Patty Shanton and Pammie Shanton; Debbie Martin and Beth Roll; and Laura Dawson and Renny Alexander.
- Bill Whaley of Greenfield won the greased pole climb.

Court halts action on Recreation building chosen Pike Fair

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